
NEWS From:

Congressman Mike Honda

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT - CALIFORNIA



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Honda Announces Funding to Improve Math and Science Curricula

Silicon Valley Rep. helps to secure \$1 billion in technology grants to improve education

Washington DC— U.S. Congressman Mike Honda (D-San Jose) announced that he has helped to secure \$1 billion in a bill passed today by the House Committee on Science & Technology that authorizes the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide a number of grants, including funding that will enable undergraduate and graduate students to assist schools in using technology to improve math and science curricula. The funding comes as part of the bipartisan "*National Mathematics and Science Partnerships Act*" (H.R. 1858) which directs the NSF to establish partnerships with government agencies, businesses and non-profit organizations to increase academic performance of elementary and secondary students in math and science. The bill now proceeds to the House Floor for a vote.

"As a new member of the Science Committee, former teacher Mike Honda has proven to be a valuable partner as the Committee has worked on a bipartisan basis to improve the nation's quality of education in our classrooms," said Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY). **"*The National Mathematics and Science Partnerships Act* will ensure students have the brightest, best prepared teachers and demonstrates what can be accomplished when both sides work together."**

"It is vitally important that all our classrooms and schools have the benefit of 21st century technology— but in order to make full use of these resources our teachers and schools must be better trained and assisted," said Honda. **"By working closely with Chairman Boehlert and our Republican colleagues, we have produced a balanced, bipartisan bill that will provide needed federal funding to enable some of our brightest young minds to help prepare our children with the high tech skills they need to succeed in the Knowledge Economy."**

In addition to providing grants to bolster math and science education, the *National Mathematics and Science Partnerships Act* also contains a provision authored by Honda that would encourage the development of energy curriculum in primary and secondary schools. The Honda provision authorizes the use of federal funds to create programs to educate students about how electricity is generated, the importance of conservation and the promise of renewable energies.

"It is my hope that, one day, every school in America will offer students an energy curriculum that accurately reflects the great energy demands our nation will face in the coming years and the great promise of renewable energy sources that are so critical to our future," said Honda. **"By educating our young people about energy today we empower them to be smarter consumers when they purchase homes, cars and dishwashers tomorrow."**